

U.S. National Stage

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

**ABSTRACT**

Please replace the abstract that appears on page 11 of the specification with the following revised abstract which is submitted on a separate sheet.

Abstract

Fuel-, ballast-, utility- or freight-tanks of ships are frequently equipped with an open sounding tube, which serves for the mechanical sounding of the fill level of the medium in the tank. In the case of fill level measurements in the sounding tube with measuring devices, which work with microwave signals, it has been found that the wanted signals can be superimposed in a lower region of the sounding tube by strong disturbance signals, which come from the tank floor. In order to be able to determine reliably the fill level of the medium reliably in a tank equipped with such a sounding tube ~~[[12]]~~ also by means of a microwave fill level measuring device, ~~the invention provides~~ an arrangement is provided which includes a deflecting device ~~[[24]]~~ for deflecting the microwave signals in an end region ~~[[22]]~~ of the sounding tube. So that it will still be possible to perform sounding measurements in such tank using a mechanical sounding device, a microwave-transmissive support ~~[[34]]~~ is provided for the plumb device in the region of the deflecting device ~~[[24]]~~.

~~[[Fig. 5]]~~